

November 3, 2003

RE: RM-10809

Dear Commissioners,

The petition is a compromise for the code requirement.

Like most of the petition seeking to retain the code requirement, this petition has the same old argument.

Do we really need to anticipate a disaster where only CW will save the day? When was the last disaster that any of the Commissioners experienced a need for CW? The idea of that kind of disaster is only for books of fiction and movies. In recent years, phone is still the number one mode for disaster communications. How much CW communications happened in New York on September 11, 2001?

Requiring Extras only to continue to test even at 5 wpm is unfair. Many countries with large amateur populations have discontinued the code requirement.

The elimination of retesting the same day is unfair to a person who may have missed only a few questions. The applicant would be required to return at another date to retest. The time between exams may be months. This would discourage more people than encourage. If this seems to be a major problem, set a score limit for retesting, If a person fails by five questions or less (for example), let him retest. It is his *money*.

Please deny this petition.

Regards,
Melvin Lehmann